<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Shuji NAKAO, et al...

Confirmation Number: 4719

Application No.: 09/986,084

Group Art Unit: 1756

Filed: November 7, 2001

Examiner: C. Young

For:

FOCUS MONITORING METHOD, FOCUS MONITORING APPARATUS, AND

METHOD OF MAUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 SEP 0 2 7003
GROUP 1700

Sir:

2003.

The following Remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 27,

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated May 27, 2003, claims 1-9 were pending and rejected in this application.